

As indicated by red ink hand corrections on FIGS. 1-3, reference numeral 37 has been added to particularly point out the rigid plunger seal element stop surface which acts as a plunger seal element stop. Approval is requested.

As indicated by red ink hand corrections on FIGS. 1 and 2, reference numeral 35 has been added to particularly point out the supporting surface having a plunger seal element fixed thereon. Approval is requested.

As indicated by red ink hand corrections on FIGS. 1 and 3, reference numeral 77 has been added to particularly point out the annular shoulder that grounds the needle holder inside the nose of the body. Approval is requested.

In the Claims

D4 31. (Amended) The assembly of claim 29 wherein the plunger carries a tip which protrudes to contact the continuous retaining member and release the retractable needle when retraction is initiated by pushing on the plunger.

D5 34. (Amended) The assembly of claim 33 wherein the continuous retaining member is separated from the retractable needle by means of force applied by said tip to said continuous retaining member when retraction is initiated by pushing on said plunger.

S4 38. (Amended) The assembly of claim 37 wherein the continuous retaining member acts as a fixed seal for a variable chamber in the barrel behind the continuous retaining member.

S4 41. (Amended) The assembly of claim 40 wherein the plunger carries a tip which protrudes to contact the continuous retaining member and release the retractable needle when retraction is initiated by pushing on the plunger.

42. (Amended) The assembly of claim 41 wherein the continuous retaining member is separated from the retractable needle by means of force applied by said tip

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D7 to said continuous retaining member when retraction is initiated by pushing on said plunger.

D8 46. (Amended) The assembly of claim 45 wherein the continuous retaining member acts as a fixed seal for a variable chamber in the barrel behind the continuous retaining member.

49. (Amended) The assembly of claim 48 wherein the plunger carries a tip which protrudes to contact the continuous retaining member and release the retractable needle when retraction is initiated by pushing on the plunger.

D9 50. (Amended) The assembly of claim 49 wherein the continuous retaining member is separated from the retractable needle by means of force applied by said tip to said continuous retaining member when retraction is initiated by pushing on said plunger.

D10 53. (Twice Amended) A syringe assembly having a retractable needle and a front end portion with an elongate biasing element and a one piece needle holder, the needle holder having a back portion and a front portion, the back portion having a flat, blunt surface that forms at least part of a variable fluid chamber in a barrel, the front portion extending through the biasing element and protruding forwardly beyond all other structural elements of the assembly except the needle.

D11 94. (Amended) The syringe of claim 81 wherein the plunger comprises a tip that extends forwardly of the plunger seal to initiate retraction.

Support for the Amendments

The amendments to the first full paragraph at page 15, lines 7-15 of the specification are supported by the claims and the drawings as originally filed.

The amendments to the first full paragraph at page 13, lines 7-10 of the specification are supported by the claims and the drawings as originally filed.